

## When God is Your husband (7/23/23)

**Main Verses:** Isaiah 54:4-8

**Key Verse:** Isaiah 54:8

**'Takeaway':** It's so reassuring to know that though each of us can act like a wayward (or "wandering") wife, God himself offers us care & commitment, like the very best husband.

**Getting Started:** How do you react when someone hurts your feelings or does something wrong toward you?



**READ:** Isaiah 54:4-8 (or have older kids help read).

Some **QUESTIONS** to consider:

Toddler/PreK:

- Why would God call himself the Israelites' husband?
- What happened to make God hide his face from them?
- What does God offer his wayward people?
- How does that reassure us & give us hope?

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Here are some **IMPORTANT IDEAS** we discover in these verses:

Toddler/PreK:

- God promises to restore his people. God always keeps his promises.
- Because he made a covenant promise to them, God sometimes refers to the people as his wife. Like a good husband, he is their provider and protector.
- The people were in exile in Babylon because of their sin, because they rejected God's rule. Even though it seemed like a long time to them, it was brief in comparison to God's everlasting love & great compassion.
- God is committed to & cares for his people. He knows what is best for us.
- The compassion & everlasting love mentioned here can be fully ours through Jesus, who is also called a husband to his people the Church (cf. Ephesians 5:25-27).

Elementary:

- God promises to restore his people (vs 4). God always keeps his promises.
- Because he made a covenant promise to them, God sometimes refers to the people as his wife. Like a good husband. He is their provider & protector.
- The people were in exile in Babylon because of their sin, because they rejected God's rule.
- Their exile seemed neverending to the people of Israel & they were tempted to believe God had deserted them. But it was brief in comparison to God's everlasting love & great compassion. God is committed to & cares for his people. He knows what is best for us.
- The compassion & everlasting love mentioned here can be fully ours through Jesus, who is also called a husband to his people, the Church (cf. Ephesians 5:25-27).

An **ENCOURAGEMENT** in light of God's word:

(Toddler/PreK) Talk to God, & praise him that he always keeps his promises. Thank him that he is the best husband to his people, & that even though the people rejected him, God provided & cared for them - always. Thank him that his compassion & everlasting love can be ours fully through Jesus, who is called a husband to his people, the Church.

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